

FACT SHEET

National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source Categories: Generic Maximum Achievable Control Technology Standards; and National Emission Standards for Ethylene Manufacturing Process Units: Heat Exchange Systems and Waste Operations

ACTION

- On April 7, 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) clarified and amended provisions in its national emissions standards to reduce toxic air emissions from facilities that produce either acrylic and modacrylic fiber or ethylene. The final standards for acrylic and modacrylic fiber production were issued in June 1999, and in July 2002 for ethylene production.
- The final standards for acrylic and modacrylic fiber production and ethylene production are part of a collection of standards called the Generic Maximum Achievable Control Technology (GMACT). The GMACT provides a structural framework that allows source categories with similar emission types and control requirements to be covered under common rules. Currently, acrylic and modacrylic fiber production and ethylene production are two of eight standards in the GMACT framework. The remaining six are not affected by today's action.
- The amendments will affect approximately 45 facilities, plus any similar facilities built in the future. EPA worked with representatives of the affected industries to develop the amendments.
- The amendments clarify compliance requirements for benzene waste streams, clarify the requirements for heat exchangers and heat exchanger systems, and stipulate the provisions for offsite waste transfer in the National Emission Standards for Ethylene Manufacturing Process Units: Heat Exchange Systems and Waste Operations.
- The amendments also correct regulatory language to state that emissions from furnaces during decoking operations are an exception to the provisions, and delineate overlapping requirements for storage vessels and transfer racks in the generic MACT as they pertain to ethylene process units.
- The amendments also correct the Compliance Requirements Table in the generic MACT as it pertains to acrylic and modacrylic fiber production.
- Today's action will have no effect on the emissions reductions or costs estimated for the rules at the time of promulgation. The estimated cost includes the cost of monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting.

- Because EPA views this action as noncontroversial, the Agency is issuing the amendments as a direct final rule with a parallel proposal. If EPA receives adverse comment on an amendment under the parallel proposal, we will withdraw the amendment and respond to the comments in a separate final rule.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- For more information, contact Warren Johnson of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-5124. Today's notice is available on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn>.
- EPA's Office of Air and Radiation home page on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program and many other air pollution programs and issues. The address is: <http://www.epa.gov/oar>.